

1FW 2838

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O I P E I A P O B

OCT 05 2006

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

~~In re~~ Application of:

Examiner: J. Han

Group Art Unit: 2838

October 4, 2006

October 4, 2006

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of document (2) is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 4,656,571  
(2) EP 718952


Documents (1) and (2) were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Office Action, which is dated August 29, 2006, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The European Search Report also cites EP 942519, which was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated January 29, 2003 and JP 09-054623, which was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated May 13, 2005, and which are therefore not being cited again herein.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449 and returning the initialed form to Applicants with the next communication.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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|---|--|--|---|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| FORM PTO 1449 (modified)<br><br>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)<br>(Use several sheets if necessary)<br><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">             OCT 05 2006<br/>             PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE           </div> |  |  | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br><b>00862.022392.</b> |                      | APPLICATION NO.<br><b>09/963,569</b> |  |
| APPLICANT<br><b>FUMITAKA TOYOMURA, et al.</b>   |  |  |   |                      |                                      |  |
| FILING DATE<br><b>September 27, 2001</b>  |  |  |   | GROUP<br><b>2838</b> |                                      |  |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                    |                |              |            |           |                               |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-------------------------------|--|
| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE           | NAME         | CLASS      | SUBCLASS  | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |  |
|                       | <b>4,656,571</b>   | <b>04/1987</b> | <b>Umezu</b> | <b>363</b> | <b>37</b> |                               |  |
|                       |                    |                |              |            |           |                               |  |
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|                       |                    |                |              |            |           |                               |  |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                |               |       |          |                                       |  |  |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER       | DATE           | COUNTRY       | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES/NO/<br>OR ABSTRACT |  |  |
| <b>718952</b>            | <b>06/1996</b> | <b>Europe</b> |       |          |                                       |  |  |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) |  |  |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1